

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 L-03 OPIC-12 H-03 INT-08

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 /070 R

DRAFTED BY ARA:CAR:JRBURKE:JR

APPROVED BY ARA:CAR:JRBURKE

ARA:CAR:KLWAUCHOPE

EB:IFD:OIA:WHCOURTNEY

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P 292056Z JUL 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 164512

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EMIN, EIND, EFIN, NS, DR, JM

SUBJECT: FORTHCOMING NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN ALCOA AND GOS

1. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY ALCOA THAT GOS HAS INDICATED THAT IT WILL HAVE JAMAICAN ADVISER AT THE TABLE PRESUMABLY AS PART OF THEIR NEGOTIATING TEAM WHEN COMPANY/GOVERNMENT TALKS BEGIN IN AUGUST. SEEMS POSSIBLE THAT THIS ARRANGEMENT MAY HAVE BEEN WORKED OUT DURING PREMIER ARRON'S RECENT VISIT TO KINGSTON. PLEASE FURNISH ANY BACKGROUND ON THIS PROPOSAL THAT MAY COME YOUR WAY EITHER AS A RESULT OF CONTACTS WITH ALCOA REPS OR GOS OFFICIALS.

2. WE OBVIOUSLY FIND PROPOSAL DISTURBING PARTICULARLY IF IT PRESAGES GOS INTENTION TO FORCE JAMAICAN REVENUE FORMULA ON ALCOA IN UPCOMING TALKS. IT ALSO SEEMS ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE OF JAMAICAN INTENTION TO PREEMPT LEADERSHIP ROLE IN IBA. IT SEEMS TO US THAT ALCOA, IN THE FIRST INSTANCE, IS IN THE BEST POSITION TO REGISTER PROTEST TO THIS SUGGESTION. ALCOA COULD TAKE THE LINE THAT NEGOTIATIONS ARE PURELY PRIVATE AFFAIR BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND

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THE COMPANY: PRESENCE OF OUTSIDERS IS, THEREFORE, INAPPRO-

PRIATE. FURTHERMORE, ALCOA COULD ARGUE THAT CONDITIONS INVOLVING THE MINING OF BAUXITE ARE QUITE DIFFERENT FROM COUNTRY TO COUNTRY DEPENDING ON SUCH VARIABLES AS THE LOCATION OF MINES IN RELATION TO PORTS, INLAND TRANSPORT,

ETC., THUS JAMAICAN EXPERIENCE HAS NO NECESSARY RELEVANCE TO SURINAM.

3. SUGGEST YOU DISCUSS THIS REPORT AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY WITH BUSTION OF ALCOA AND SEE WHAT ALCOA PROPOSES TO DO. WE ARE PREPARED TO DO WHATEVER APPEARS APPROPRIATE AND LIKELY TO BE HELPFUL IN EFFORT TO SPIKE THIS PROPOSAL. AT THE SAME TIME WE ARE OBVIOUSLY DESIROUS OF AVOIDING ANY ACTION WHICH LIKELY TO PRODUCE OPPOSITE COHESIVE EFFECT.

4. FOR KINGSTON: WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANY INFORMATION THAT MAY HAVE COME YOUR WAY REGARDING THIS PROPOSAL. INGERSOLL

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